



WORK-READY THINK TANK

SUMMARY REPORT

SPRING 2022





Event Details

Date: March 16, 2022

Location: Roger Williams University, One Old Ferry Road,
Bristol, RI 02809

Overview: In partnership with the **East Bay Chamber of Commerce Education Sub-Committee, Bristol-Warren Regional School District, Town of Bristol**, and **Highlander School**, this networking series was started to help bridge the gap between local business needs and student learning objectives to provide students with more meaningful real-world learning opportunities that support the local economy.

Event Results

Number of Attendees: 42

Number of Feedback Responses: 70



Key Takeaways

- 1) The majority of business leaders in attendance were not ready to take the next steps in implementing a Work Based Learning Program or mentorship program at their business.
- 2) Establish an action plan to accomplish the Key Takeaways outlined in the Fall 2021 report.
- 3) Allow for more in-depth, structured Think Tank discussions with a focus on student interactions.
- 4) There are opportunities to tie in the work being done through the BWRSD CTE Advisory Committee with the Work Ready Think Tank series.

84% OF PARTICIPANTS INTERESTED IN
ATTENDING FUTURE THINK TANK EVENTS

55% OF PARTICIPANTS ATTENDED THE FALL
2021 THINK TANK EVENT

Feedback

Feedback is summarized based on the Question Clusters used for the breakout discussions at the Think Tank event.

Cluster #1: Event Plus

- *"I really liked it when..."*
- *"This event was awesome because..."*

Cluster #1 Feedback

Number of Responses: 18

- The Think Tank successfully provided students with the opportunity to showcase their work and practice their public speaking skills.
- Think Tank discussions were dynamic and engaging for business leaders and students.
- The Think Tank successfully created real-world connections between business leaders and students.



Cluster #2: Event Minus

- *"Next time I am hoping we can..."*
- *"I think we can do (x) better next time."*

Cluster #2 Feedback

Number of Responses: 10

- More time should be allocated for breakout group discussions/showcases to allow business leaders and students to have more in-depth conversations.
- Build in a professional development training component to the Work Ready Think Tank series.
- Provide businesses with more opportunities to connect and share ideas with school leaders at the Work Ready Think Tank series.
- Develop a job fair that ties into the Work Ready Think Tank series. Leverage the network of engaged businesses.

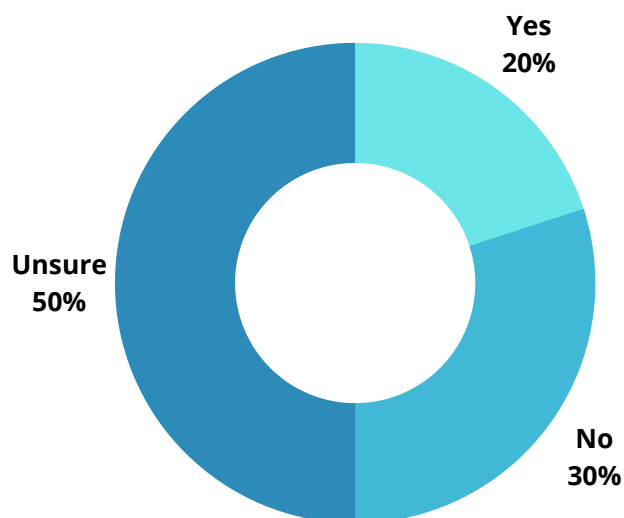
Cluster #3: Next Steps

Q1: *Would you like someone from this (event) committee to call you to provide support and assist you in implementing a Work Based Learning Program or mentorship program at your business?*

Q2: *To have the most impact on our community and students, we hope you can provide connections to other businesses for future events.*

Cluster #3 Feedback

Q1 Number of Responses: 9



Q2 Number of Referrals: 5



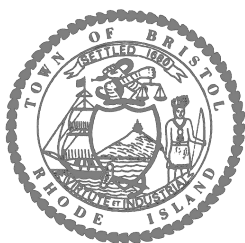
Cluster #4: Free Response

- *Any lingering comments, questions, or suggestions?*

Cluster #4 Feedback

Number of Responses: 2

- The business leader didn't know that Mt. Hope High School had a woodshop and metal shop on its premises.
- Students feel that businesses can do more to reach out to them.
- The business leader would like to see more vocational training in welding, pipefitting, and carpentry in the curriculum.



*The Work Ready Think Tank Summary
Report | Fall 2021*
was produced by the Town of
Bristol.

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V1 09.09.2022